

Amendments to the Drawings:

Please replace original drawing sheet 2/6 with the enclosed Replacement Sheet 2/6.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-34 are pending in the present application. Claim 7 is canceled herein. Claims 1, 26 and 30 have been amended. Paragraph [0038] of the specification has been amended; and Figure 3 has been amended. No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks.

The Examiner has objected to the specification and to Figure 3 because adjustments are shown in path 309/334. Applicants have amended paragraph [0038] and Figure 3 to be consistent with the specification so that the fifth path 309 originally at $T_0 + 3.75T_c$ remains unadjusted as the fifth path 334 also at $T_0 + 3.75T_c$. Applicants respectfully submit that the specification and drawings, as amended, are allowable.

Claims 1-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have amended claim 1 to clarify the claim elements cited by the Examiner.

Claims 1-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as assertedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 2002/0061056 to Smolyar, *et al.* (hereinafter “Smolyar”) in view of He. Claims 26-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as assertedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,987,016 to He (hereinafter “He”). Claims 30-34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as assertedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 2003/0186714 A1 to Vihriala (hereinafter “Vihriala”) in view of He and U.S. Patent No. 2003/0235238 A1 to Schelm, *et al.* (hereinafter “Schelm”). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claim 1, as amended, requires:

fixing a location for a path having samples with a largest magnitude in the group; and
adjusting the DLLs of other paths so that the samples of the other paths are greater than the first specified distance threshold apart.

Claims 26 and 30, as amended, require a group decision unit that:

selects a signal with the largest magnitude; and
adjusts the DLLs for the remaining signals so that the signals are greater than the specified threshold apart.

The cited references do not fix a location for a path with the largest magnitude or select a signal with the largest magnitude and then adjust the other paths' or signals' DLLs so that the signals or samples from the paths are greater than a specified distance apart. Accordingly, the pending independent claims are allowable the cited references.

Claims 2-6, 8-25, 27-29, and 31-34 depend from claims 1, 26, and 30, respectively, and add further limitations. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim as well as for adding new limitations.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance and request that the Examiner pass the case to issuance. If the Examiner should have any questions, Applicants request that the Examiner please contact Applicants' attorney, Ron Neering at 972-917-5229. In the event that the enclosed fees are insufficient, please charge any additional fees required to keep this application pending, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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